REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The amendments to the claims present no new matter. In particular, the amendments are only for purposes of clarifying the language of the claims and to adjust punctuation thereof.

Reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth, it is submitted that all pending claims are patentably distinct over the art of record.

Accordingly, an allowance of all claims over the art of record is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In accordance with the afore-noted amendments and comments, it is submitted that all claims are patentably distinct over the art, and in condition for allowance thereover. An early allowance of all claims is respectfully requested.

If there are any fees necessitated by the foregoing communication, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 09-0460, referencing our Docket No. STL919980004US2 (formerly ST9-98-004).

Respectfully submitted,

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